WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer-implemented method for enabling users to access a computer system, comprising:

   selecting a universal local user account of a computer system dependent upon user account selection information of a user, wherein the universal local user account has access privilege on the computer system; and

   mapping the user to the universal local user account.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said user account selection information includes at least one of directory services group membership information and access privilege information.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said selecting the universal user account includes correlating a universal local user account access level to a corresponding group membership of the user.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein:

   the universal local user account is one of a plurality of universal local user accounts; and

   each one of said universal local user accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

   creating said plurality of universal local user accounts prior to performing said selecting,

   wherein each one of said universal local user access accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

    determining a non-local status of the user with respect to the computer system; and

    authorizing access to the computer system in response to performing said determining;

    wherein said determining and said authorizing are both performed prior to said selecting; and

    wherein said mapping enables the user to access the computer system in accordance with an access privilege level corresponding to the universal local user account.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said authorizing access includes verifying that the user has an active account on a shared directory service manager.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein several users can be simultaneously mapped to the universal local user account for enabling simultaneous access by each one of said users to the computer system.

9. A computer-implemented method for enabling users to access a computer system, comprising:

    determining a non-local status of a user with respect to a computer system; and

    associating the user with a universal local user account after said determining,

5   wherein the universal local user account has access privilege on the computer system.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising:

    determining group membership affiliations of the user; wherein said associating is performed dependent upon said group membership affiliations of the user.

10   11. The method of claim 9 wherein said associating includes correlating a universal local user account access level to a corresponding access level of a group membership of the user.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein:

    the universal local user account is one of a plurality of universal local user accounts; and

15   each one of said universal local user accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

13. The method of claim 9, further comprising:

    creating said plurality of universal local user accounts prior to performing said selecting, wherein each one of said universal local user access accounts has a

20   respective access privilege level associated therewith.

14. The method of claim 9 wherein said associating includes:

12

selecting the universal local user account dependent upon user account selection information of the user; and

mapping the user to the universal local user account.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein said user account selection information includes at least one of directory services group membership information and access privilege information.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein said selecting the universal user account includes correlating a universal local user account access level to an access level of a group membership of the user.

17. The method of claim 14 wherein said mapping enables the user to access the computer system in accordance with an access privilege level corresponding to the universal local user account.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising:

verifying that the user has an active account on a shared directory service manager prior to performing said mapping.

19. The method of claim 9 wherein several users can be simultaneously mapped to the universal local user account for enabling simultaneous access by each one of said users to the computer system.

5

10

15

13

1580.0200012

20. A computer system, comprising:

   at least one data processing device;

   instructions processable by said at least one data processing device; and

5   an apparatus from which said instructions are accessible by said at least one data

   processing device;

   wherein said instructions are configured for enabling said at least one data

   processing device to facilitate:

   selecting a universal local user account of a computer system dependent

10   upon user account selection information of a user, wherein the

   universal local user account has access privilege on the computer

   system; and

   mapping the user to the universal local user account.

21. The computer system of claim 20 wherein said user account selection information includes at

15   least one of directory services group membership information and access privilege

   information.

22. The computer system of claim 20 wherein said selecting the universal user account includes

   correlating a universal local user account access level to a corresponding group membership

   of the user.

20   23. The computer system of claim 20 wherein:

   the universal local user account is one of a plurality of universal local user

   accounts; and

14

each one of said universal local user accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

24. The computer system of claim 20 wherein said instructions are further configured for enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate:

5   creating said plurality of universal local user accounts prior to performing said selecting,

        wherein each one of said universal local user access accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

25. The computer system of claim 20 wherein said instructions are further configured for

10   enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate:

        determining a non-local status of the user with respect to the computer system; and

        authorizing access to the computer system in response to performing said determining;

15   wherein said determining and said authorizing are both performed prior to said selecting; and

        wherein said mapping enables the user to access the computer system in accordance with an access privilege level corresponding to the universal local user account.

20 26. The computer system of claim 25 wherein said authorizing access includes verifying that the user has an active account on a shared directory service manager.

27. The computer system of claim 20 wherein several users can be simultaneously mapped to the universal local user account for enabling simultaneous access by each one of said users to the computer system.

25

1580.0200012

28. A computer system, comprising:

    at least one data processing device;

    instructions processable by said at least one data processing device; and

    an apparatus from which said instructions are accessible by said at least one data

5   processing device;

    wherein said instructions are configured for enabling said at least one data

    processing device to facilitate:

        determining a non-local status of the user with respect to a computer

            system; and

10   associating the user with a universal local user account after said

            determining, wherein the universal local user account has access

            privilege on the computer system.

29. The computer system of claim 28 wherein said instructions are further configured for
    enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate:

15   determining group membership affiliations of the user; wherein said associating is

            performed dependent upon said group membership affiliations of the user.

30. The computer system of claim 28 wherein said associating includes correlating a
    universal local user account access level to a corresponding access level of a group
    membership of the user.

20   31. The computer system of claim 28 wherein:

    the universal local user account is one of a plurality of universal local user

        accounts; and

    each one of said universal local user accounts has a respective access privilege

        level associated therewith.

1580.0200012

32. The computer system of claim 28 wherein said instructions are further configured for enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate:

creating said plurality of universal local user accounts prior to performing said selecting, wherein each one of said universal local user access accounts has a respective access privilege level associated therewith.

33. The computer system of claim 28 wherein said associating includes:

selecting the universal local user account dependent upon user account selection information of the user; and

mapping the user to the universal local user account.

34. The computer system of claim 33 wherein said user account selection information includes at least one of directory services group membership information and access privilege information.

35. The computer system of claim 33 wherein said selecting the universal user account includes correlating a universal local user account access level to an access level of a group membership of the user.

36. The computer system of claim 33 wherein said mapping enables the user to access the computer system in accordance with an access privilege level corresponding to the universal local user account.

37. The computer system of claim 36 wherein said instructions are further configured for enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate verifying that the user has an active account on a shared directory service manager prior to performing said mapping.

38. The computer system of claim 28 wherein several users can be simultaneously mapped to the universal local user account for enabling simultaneous access by each one of said users to the computer system.

1580.0200012